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MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1909

"Business."

Saturday Evening, Oct. 16.—During the latter part of last week the New York stock market developed considerable weakness, which was generally attributed to the advance in money rates and to a feeling that money would work still closer, and ended the week substantially lower than the preceding week. The market began this week showing the same weakness, which was generally attributed to the advance in money rates and to a feeling that money would work still closer, and ended the week substantially lower than the preceding week. The market began this week showing the same weakness, which was generally attributed to the advance in money rates and to a feeling that money would work still closer, and ended the week substantially lower than the preceding week.

It is curious that the President should be charged with having advised Mr. Crane to make public whatever he should find out concerning the plans of the State Department. It is true that President Taft is not a diplomatist, but in experience in diplomacy is not pre-requisite to the exercise of the common variety of caution employed in any and all kinds of private business and any and all public service.

To judge from his disclosures for the press Mr. Crane, in a game of draw poker, upon being dealt three aces, or upon filling a royal flush, would rise and about to the other players his prospects of scooping the jackpot. In many kinds of business transactions, and in diplomacy, the elements that enter into the mental make-up of a successful poker player are necessary to success.

A skilled poker player is the product of experience—usually of experience roundly paid for—combined with an inborn faculty for keeping the mouth shut and preventing the expression of the face from showing as frankly as the face of a clock what is going on behind it. No one, except the toy himself, expects a beginner at draw poker to distinguish himself as a skilled player, although the inscrutable workings of the laws of "nigger luck" may temporarily enrich him. But it is equally true that to one who expects to see the beginner turn the faces of his cards toward the other players or make an attempt at the hand he holds. Even Tom Simpson, the innocent of Sandy Bar, to whom Mr. John Oakhurst returned the money he had lost to him, with interest added in the form of a curtain lecture upon the folly of engaging in poker as a pastime without having any special aptitude for the game, did not show his hand in a literal sense.

While President Taft may know little about diplomacy any nail-kick philosopher at a cross roads town—anywhere save the village idiot—knows that the first injunction in the diplomat's book of rules is not to begin a career in diplomacy by violating all of the rules of draw poker, of business, and of horse trading. The assumption that President Taft advised Mr. Crane to cry out from the housetops that America proposed to discipline Japan is absurd except upon the theory that the President is not only not a diplomatist, but is also lacking in the lowest order of "horse sense." No considerable portion of the public will agree that a man of his broad experience could lack that quality in the degree indicated by Mr. Crane when he seeks to make it appear that he was instructed to be the talismaner between the State Department and the Washington bureau of the American newspapers at home, and a public speaker upon the affairs and intentions of the State Department abroad. President Taft is not a graduate of a school of diplomacy, and he is not a man of practical experience in diplomacy, but he is not a mentally defective, and he is not in a state of benighted ignorance as to the ordinary requirements for the discharge of such duties as fall to the lot of a member of the diplomatic corps.

To have to bear the responsibility for having selected as our Minister to China a man without qualifications—a mere respectable rich nobody whose possession of money is due not to his own acumen, but to that of a thrifty sire—is a sufficient burden for the President. It is unfair, and unreasonable, to believe that the construction Mr. Crane put upon the President's instructions was in any way warrantable.

Indiana's Coal Production.

Indiana's coal production in 1908 amounted to 11,997,304 tons, a decrease in output of 1,253,411 tons as compared with 1907. In this particular Indiana was no exception to other coal-producing States, all of them showing a reduction in output.

In the annual report of W. S. Blatchley, the State Geologist, it is estimated that in Indiana there are fifty billion tons of coal of which twenty-four billion tons are now workable. If mining continued at the present rate this supply would last 1,000 years or thereabouts, so there is no crying need for any immediate conservation of coal resources in that State. The production, however, under normal conditions has been increasing at the rate of a million tons a year. Even at this rate of increase, enough coal in sight to last at least 150 years, so no citizen of Indiana need give himself any worry as to the likelihood of its exhaustion in his lifetime.

The coal in Indiana is all located in the western and southwestern part of the State. If there is any elsewhere the indications are so well concealed that no geologist has any suspicion of its existence. Sixteen counties are practically all underlain by coal measures; Parke, Vermillion, Vigo, Clay, Sullivan, Greene, Knox, Daviess, Martin, Gibson, Pike, Dubois, Posey, Vanderburg, Warrick and Spencer. Nine counties are in greater or less part underlain by coal: Warren, Fountain, Montgomery, Putnam, Owen, Lawrence, Orange, Crawford and Perry. The largest producers are the counties of Vigo, Sullivan and Greene in the order named, each producing more than 2,000,000 tons in 1908. Vermillion and Clay each produced more than 1,000,000 tons, but no other county reached the million mark. Figures in the remaining counties are: Parke, 602,945; Knox, 427,999; Pike, 424,065; Warrick, 424,065; Vanderburg, 253,774; Gibson, 170,421; Daviess, 143,185; Putnam, 15,849; Perry, 3,729.

That Indiana's coal field is holding its own is evidenced by the fact that Appalachian field that surpasses it in output. The development of mines undoubtedly will be a great factor in the prosperity of Southern and Southwestern Indiana. A considerable portion of that same territory, it may be remarked, is rich in oil.

The Cumberland River.

The Cumberland River Improvement Association is to meet in Nashville November 12. The purpose of the organization is to launch a movement for the improvement of conditions on that river.

The Cumberland is an important waterway, but very little has been done in the way of organized effort to prevent its claims to the attention of the Federal Government. Some improvement is in progress on the lower river, but it is particularly desired that work begun on the upper river shall be carried out as originally planned. The Mayors of all towns along the stream will be asked to send delegates to the Nashville convention. It is hoped to create a sentiment in favor of the pending Government projects, and whatever else that may tend to enlarge or improve transportation. A special invitation will be extended to all steamboat owners concerned in Cumberland River traffic. This idea is a good one, as steamboat men undoubtedly are more familiar with waterway needs than anybody else.

The meeting will be the second convention of the association, which was organized in Nashville last year with Capt. W. J. Stone, of Kuttawa, Ky., as president and E. S. Shannon, of Nashville, as secretary. Both ends of the Cumberland River are in Kentucky and citizens of Kentucky, therefore, are interested alike in the upper and lower river improvements. Eastern Kentucky, especially, would be benefited by the carrying out of a substantial scheme of betterment. Kentuckians who feel an abiding interest in the Cumberland will do well to attend the Nashville convention.

A Notable Street Fair.

A street fair was held at Lawrenceburg, Ind., a few days ago, and there was something doing every minute. To begin with, the man who was impersonating the Cuban wild girl in her daring act of "eating an alive," undertook to make a meal out of a Gila monster. The monster also happened to be hungry, and endeavored to make a meal out of the pseudo wild girl, who gave a most realistic exhibition of wildness when the monster inserted its fangs. The performer was bitten on the arm, which swelled to large proportions, despite the fact that a madstone was applied. His condition is critical, says a veracious correspondent of the Indianapolis News.

The excitement caused by this incident had hardly subsided when a large snake escaped from its cage in an animal show and went on the warpath. The snake had killed a golden eagle and three monkeys before its keeper was able to recapture it. The animal show was less animated when the snake got through its damaging work, but was enabled to proceed after the dead monkeys had been dragged out and the snake had been clubbed or chloroformed into unconsciousness.

A trained dog and goat show also came to grief. One of the spectators was careless enough to allow a fighting bulldog to follow him into the tent. The bulldog was not pleased with the performance. After watching it for a minute or two with growing indignation, he sailed into the performers ineffectually and there was a speedy disruption of the dog and goat show. When order had been restored it was found that one goat had been slain and two dogs disabled. The rest of the dogs and goats had fled with the audience. Their owner will not know how much of a show he has left until he gets through beating the bushes on the Indiana hills for the remnants of his once flourishing menagerie.

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The meeting will be the second convention of the association, which was organized in Nashville last year with Capt. W. J. Stone, of Kuttawa, Ky., as president and E. S. Shannon, of Nashville, as secretary. Both ends of the Cumberland River are in Kentucky and citizens of Kentucky, therefore, are interested alike in the upper and lower river improvements. Eastern Kentucky, especially, would be benefited by the carrying out of a substantial scheme of betterment. Kentuckians who feel an abiding interest in the Cumberland will do well to attend the Nashville convention.

A Notable Street Fair.

A street fair was held at Lawrenceburg, Ind., a few days ago, and there was something doing every minute. To begin with, the man who was impersonating the Cuban wild girl in her daring act of "eating an alive," undertook to make a meal out of a Gila monster. The monster also happened to be hungry, and endeavored to make a meal out of the pseudo wild girl, who gave a most realistic exhibition of wildness when the monster inserted its fangs. The performer was bitten on the arm, which swelled to large proportions, despite the fact that a madstone was applied. His condition is critical, says a veracious correspondent of the Indianapolis News.

The excitement caused by this incident had hardly subsided when a large snake escaped from its cage in an animal show and went on the warpath. The snake had killed a golden eagle and three monkeys before its keeper was able to recapture it. The animal show was less animated when the snake got through its damaging work, but was enabled to proceed after the dead monkeys had been dragged out and the snake had been clubbed or chloroformed into unconsciousness.

A trained dog and goat show also came to grief. One of the spectators was careless enough to allow a fighting bulldog to follow him into the tent. The bulldog was not pleased with the performance. After watching it for a minute or two with growing indignation, he sailed into the performers ineffectually and there was a speedy disruption of the dog and goat show. When order had been restored it was found that one goat had been slain and two dogs disabled. The rest of the dogs and goats had fled with the audience. Their owner will not know how much of a show he has left until he gets through beating the bushes on the Indiana hills for the remnants of his once flourishing menagerie.

Everything was peaceful for a few hours until a delivery horse attached to a grocer's wagon became frightened at a balloon ascension and struck out for the tall and uncultured timber where he had spent his childhood. He left a trail of groceries and human trepidation over a wide extent of territory, and finally broke his leg while attempting to climb a tree. There is no report as to the whereabouts of the driver, but he is probably in Boone county, Ky., traveling south.

The pervading spirit of "pure cussedness" was not confined to representatives of the animal kingdom, but we are told that twenty-five patrolmen and two patrol wagons were kept busy making himself any worry as to the likelihood of its exhaustion in his lifetime.

The coal in Indiana is all located in the western and southwestern part of the State. If there is any elsewhere the indications are so well concealed that no geologist has any suspicion of its existence. Sixteen counties are practically all underlain by coal measures; Parke, Vermillion, Vigo, Clay, Sullivan, Greene, Knox, Daviess, Martin, Gibson, Pike, Dubois, Posey, Vanderburg, Warrick and Spencer. Nine counties are in greater or less part underlain by coal: Warren, Fountain, Montgomery, Putnam, Owen, Lawrence, Orange, Crawford and Perry. The largest producers are the counties of Vigo, Sullivan and Greene in the order named, each producing more than 2,

